

University of Groningen

Begg orthodontic therapy in retrospect

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Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:

1975

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Levin, R. I. (1975). *Begg orthodontic therapy in retrospect*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. [S.n.].

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I

It is unrealistic to assume that, in contrast to all other systems of the human organism which change throughout life, the occlusion is static after orthodontic treatment.

II

The final examination after (orthodontic) treatment should be as extensive as the initial examination.

III

Prolonged retention after orthodontic treatment is of limited value.

IV

Stability of changes effected in the dentition during treatment can be assessed at an early stage of the postretention period, while, changes in the periodontium due to treatment can only be evaluated at a much later stage.

V

There is no scientific basis for equating the principle of the arch as used in architecture to a comparable application in orthodontics, to promote the stability of the dental arches.

VI

Compartmentalisation of dental training produces a fragmentary approach to general dental care.

VII

There is as yet no justification for mandibular third molar germectomy to prevent mandibular incisor crowding.

VIII

Methods to prevent dental caries and periodontal disease should be introduced to children of preschool age and their parents.

IX

The forces which are used and co-ordinated in reaching the moon are much, much simpler than the forces and co-ordination of forces which are at work in craniofacial morphogenesis.

(A. G. M. van Melsen: *The morphogenesis of the human head. Acta Morphol. Neerl-Scand* 10:3-8, 1972).

X

The current trend to more conservative attire is a precursor of a similar political trend.